

Luke 16:10-15, 2 Corinthians 9:6-14

Paul, quoting Proverbs 22, is calling to mind an entire passage, not just a single saying since he starts this passage by talking about people 'sowing' in a meager way or a generous way; and the word he uses for generously is the same word Proverbs uses ('blesses') for what God will do to a cheerful giver.

Proverbs gives a reasonably complete portrait of a wise and God-fearing person who knows how to be generous with money. Paul wants the Corinthians to see this as a portrait of themselves (N.T. Wright, 2003).

What I mean is this: the one who sows a small number of seeds will also reap a small crop, and the one who sows a generous amount of seeds will also reap a generous crop. Everyone should give whatever they have decided in their heart. They shouldn't give with hesitation or because of pressure. God loves a cheerful giver. God has the power to provide you with more than enough of every kind of grace. That way, you will have everything you need always and in everything to provide more than enough for every kind of good work. **2 Corinthians 9:6-8**

What do we need to consider in determining what we are to give?

How can we practice giving of our own volition, without hesitation?

What is a cheerful giver? What hinders cheerful giving?

Next week: *Alabaster Sunday, Dr. Andy Bennett preaching*

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September 23, 2018

Faithful Stewards

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THIS WEEK:

Today: *Psalm 3* (What is God saying to you?)

Monday: *Ecclesiastes 9:13-18*

Tuesday: *1 Kings 3:3-28*

Wednesday: *James 3:13-18*

Thursday: *Ephesians 3:1-20*

Friday: *2 Corinthians 6:1-10*

Saturday: *1 Corinthians 4:1-13*

Almighty God, You Who created us and called us to minister in Your Name, pour out Your Holy Spirit on us today so we may be wise stewards of all Your precious gifts. In the great Name and Spirit of Christ, Amen.

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